

PHILOS PROJECT

June 17, 2021

Dear Prime Minister Bennett:

It is with great pleasure that we write to congratulate you on the successful formation of a new government for the State of Israel, the world's only Jewish state.

We are Christian leaders from different traditions who feel a strong sense of friendship with Israel based on shared values that originate in the Hebrew Bible. Israel embodies these values every day in its commitment to democracy and human rights, and serves as a bold model of ethnic and religious pluralism for others to follow.

We are grateful for the work of your predecessor, Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu, for all he did to strengthen Israel and its alliances over the past twelve years, and look forward to all that you and your coalition will accomplish in the years to come. We want to thank you in advance for protecting our shared values as they apply to Israel's citizens, whether Jews, Christians, Muslims, or Druze; for guarding the holy sites and welcoming religious pilgrims from around the world to discover the birthplace of their faith; for defending Israel from outside aggression; and for continuing to work toward peace with Israel's neighbors. In return, we pledge to deepen our friendship with your country and its wonderful people.

For many centuries, the Jewish people did not have friends; indeed, Christians were often counted among their greatest enemies. But today the situation is different. Hundreds of millions of Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox Christians in North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia are united in their love for – and strong defense of – a sovereign Jewish state with Jerusalem as its capital.

As the heir of a great tradition of Jewish leadership going back thousands of years, you will be standing on the shoulders of giants. But now your shoulders, too, will be burdened by the responsibilities of statesmanship as you lead your country in difficult times. We pray that God grants you wisdom and strength as you make hard decisions that will affect the lives of millions, and we trust that He will answer those prayers.

May you, your family, and your coalition partners be blessed as you lead the people of Israel into a new phase of its history. Please consider us friends in the spirit of our common values and allies in a common mission. We look forward to meeting you in person the next time we are in Jerusalem.

Jonathan Avendano
Iglesia Maná del Cielo

Yadheera Báez
Executive Director, EXPOLIT

Abner Baez
National Vice President, Defenders of the
Christian Faith Movement

Mark Ballard
President, WNZN Christian Radio

Renod Bejjani
President, iHope Ministries

Bishop Hector Luis Bonano
President, Confraternidad de Lideres
Conciliares (CONLICO)

Rev. Dr. Edward L. Branch
E.L. Branch Ministries

Kathy Branzell
President, National Day of Prayer Task
Force

Apostle Dr. Sylvester Paul Brinson, III
Governing Apostle, Hope Outreach
Ministries International

Dr. Dave Butts
Chairman, American's National Prayer
Committee

Dr. Selgui Byun
Chair and Professor of Biblical Studies and
Religion, Grove City College

Noel Castellanos
President, Camino Ministries International

Rev. Dr. Deedee Coleman
Senior Pastor, Russell Street Missionary
Baptist Church
National Council Member, AIPAC

Dr. Tony Crisp
CEO & Senior Bible Teacher, True Life
Concepts

Dan Darling
Senior VP of Communications, National
Religious Broadcasters

Daniel Delgado

Director, Third Day Missions

Shari Dollinger

Co-Executive Director, Christians United for Israel

Carlos Durán

President, The National Hispanic Pastors Alliance (NAHPA)

Libia Duran

Founder, Pastors Wives of America

Rev. Chris Edmonds

Author/Speaker

Alberto M. Fernandez

US Ambassador, Retired

Dr. William Flippin

Senior Pastor, Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church

Rev. Kenneth J. Flowers

Senior Pastor, Greater New Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church
Co-Director, Black and Jewish Unity Coalition of Detroit

Carlos M. Lopez Garcia

Pastor, Damascus Christian Church of Queens Village

Josh Good

Director, Faith Angle Forum
Ethics and Public Policy Center

Robert Green

Lead Singer, Grupo Barak

Julio Escotto

President, Confraternidad Latina de Pastores de Paterson y New Jersey (COLAPA)

Ken Harrison

Chairman, Promise Keepers

Grant Hewitt

Southern Regional Director, Christian Medical & Dental Association

Dr. Jamal-Dominique Hopkins

Dean of Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary, Allen University

Jonathan Jakubowski

Author, *Bellwether Blues*

Dr. Dru Johnson

Associate Professor, The King's College
Director, Center for Hebraic Thought

Adam Josefczyk

Co-Founder, Forge Leadership Network

Yale Kim

Chairman, The Prayer Council USA

Gerardo Laboy

Restoration Church of Glenn Burnie

Nic Lesmeister

Pastor for Church & Jewish Relations, Gateway Church

Bishop Frank Lyons

Diocese of the South, Anglican Church in North America

Alex López, MBA

Writer, Speaker & Executive Coach

Lic. Aixa de López

Writer

Aurelio Magariño

Executive Director, Hispanic Lutheran Mission Society of Metro Washington, D.C

Johan Manjarres

Lead Singer, Generación 12

José Martínez

President, Radio Visión Cristiana Internacional

Dr. Gerald McDermott

Anglican Chair of Divinity (Ret.), Beeson Divinity School

José A. Mendoza

Pastor & Editor

Dr. Susan M. Michael

USA Director, International Christian Embassy Jerusalem

Johnnie Moore

President, The Congress of Christian Leaders
Founder, The Kairos Company

Shelley Neese

President, The Jerusalem Connection

Dr. W. Martin Nicholas

Lead Pastor, Sugar Land Methodist Church

Robert Nicholson

President, The Philos Project

Dr. Freddy Noble

Senior Pastor, Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana de Manhattan

Bill Noe

Associate Director, Texas Baptist Center for Collegiate Ministries

Miguel Núñez

Pastor, Iglesia Bautista Internacional
President, Ministerios Integridad y Sabiduría

Dave Owen

Chairman, David C. Owen Leadership Institute

Bishop Abel E. Palomo

Mid Atlantic Conference, The International Pentecostal Holiness Church (IPHC)

Jesús Peña

Legal Commentator & Media Communicator, Peña & Kahn Law Firm

Paul Pietre

Founder & Co-Founder, European Prayer Breakfast
Co-Founder, Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast

Efrain Pineda

Founder and President, Congreso RED

Scott Phillips

Executive Director, Passages Israel

Bill Reichart

Vice President for Campus and Community Ministries, Christian Medical and Dental Association

Lord Simon Reading

Member, House of Lords (1980 – 1999)

Rev. Dr. William Reverly, Jr.

Senior Pastor, Holy Hope Heritage Baptist Church

Dr. Agustin Reyes

Subsidiary Leader, National Hispanic
Christian Leadership Conference

Rev. Rick Ridings

International Author and Conference
Speaker
Founder and Director, Succat Hallel

Bob Roberts

Global Senior Pastor, Northwood Church

Gordon Robertson

CEO, Christian Broadcasting Network

Joel Rosenberg

New York Times Bestselling Author
Founder & Editor, ALL ISRAEL NEWS

Robin Rowan

President, Church for Israel

Rev. Dr. Albert R. Sampson

Senior Pastor, Fernwood United Methodist
Church

Arlene Bridges Samuels

Columnist, Christian Broadcasting Network

Rick Santorum

U.S. Senator

Lauren Sharp

Campus Minister

Rev. Horrace Sheffield, III

Executive Director, Detroit Association of
Black Organizations

Bishop Ed Stephens Jr.

Senior Pastor, Golden Gate Cathedral

Rev. Tony Suarez**Rev. Lance Tamerius**

Director, Christian Campus House

Dr. Samuel Tolbert

President, National Baptist Convention of
America

Mark Tooley

President, Institute on Religion and
Democracy

Bishop Dr. Kenneth Ulmer

Senior Pastor, Faithful Central Bible Church

Rev. Jim Vickers

Executive Director, Mountaintop Power
Center

Peeter Vosu

Director, International Christian Embassy of
Jerusalem (Estonia)
Vice Chairman, Pro Patria Party

Dr. Jacob Wolf

2020-2021 John and Daria Barry
Postdoctoral Research Fellow
James Madison Program in American Ideals
and Institutions, Princeton University

Dr. John Mark Yeats

Vice President for Student Services &
Professor of Church History, Midwestern
Baptist Theological Seminary

Amy Zewe

Vice President, The Jerusalem Connection

Bishop Robert Stearns

Founder, Eagles Wings